

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

Reference "AG" has been lined through as it has already been made of record in the ***Notice of References Cited*** mailed to Applicant on 1/30/07.

Document "AL" listed in the IDS filed 11/19/08 has not been considered as it does not have a publication date as required by 37 CFR 1.98.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Scott Tolino on 12/5/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification:

On page 15, line 12, the phrase --or second end portion-- has been inserted after "large diameter portion".

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On page 15, line 13, the phrase --or first end portion-- has been inserted after “small diameter portion”.

In the claims:

In claim 2, lines 1-2, the phrase “the ultrasonic welding” has been replaced with the phrase --welding of the hold ring--.

In claim 2, line 2, “pressed” has been replaced with --fixedly attached--.

In claim 3, lines 3-4, the phrase “from a side...to weld,” has been deleted.

In claim 5, line 2, “pressed” has been replaced with --fixedly attached--.

Claims 8-9 have been canceled.

In claim 10, line 1, “8” has been replaced with --1--.

In claim 10, line 2, “large diameter” has been replaced with --second end--.

In claim 10, line 2, “small diameter” has been replaced with --first end--.

In claim 12, line 1, “8” has been replaced with --1--.

In claim 12, line 3, “small diameter” has been replaced with --first end--.

In claim 13, line 2, “pressed” has been replaced with --fixedly attached--.

In claim 13, line 4, the phrase “said ultrasonic welding” has been replaced with the phrase --welding of the hold ring--.

In claim 14, line 1, “8” has been replaced with --1--.

In claim 14, lines 1-2, “large diameter” has been replaced with --second end--.

In claim 15, line 1, “8” has been replaced with --1--.

In claim 15, lines 1-2, “small diameter” has been replaced with --first end--.

In claim 22, line 2, "pressed" has been replaced with --fixedly attached--.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES M. HEWITT whose telephone number is (571)272-7084. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 930am-600pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Stodola can be reached on 571-272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James M Hewitt/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3679